IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Beschier Jacob NOTEBOOM

Appln. No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Confirmation No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED Group Art Unit: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed: February 15, 2002 Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR JOB MEDIATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

- 3. Method according to claim 1, in which the step of generating an adjustment advice (16) is executed when the number of employees in the first subset of employees is lower than the requested number of jobs.
- 4. Method according claim 1, in which the step of matching comprises the steps of determining a score for each of the plurality of employees, based on a weighted score for each of the plurality of matching criteria, the first subset of the plurality of employees comprising employees, for which the score is above a first predetermined threshold; and the adjustment advice (16) is being generated by selecting a second subset of employees, for which the score is between the first predetermined threshold and a second predetermined threshold, the second threshold being lower than the first threshold; and deriving from the second subset at least one

matching criterion, for which the employee characteristic and job characteristic do not match, and an associated value that will result in a higher number of the plurality of employees for which the score is above the first threshold.

- 5. Method according to claim 1, in which the at least one criterion is selected from a list of meaningful criteria.
- 6. Method according to claim 1, in which the at least one matching criterion is a further matching criterion associated with one of the plurality of matching criteria according to a set of knowledge rules.
- 7. Method according to claim 1, in which the at least one criterion is adjustable by one of the plurality of employees.
- 8. Method according to claim 1, in which the at least one criterion is adjustable by the customer.
- 9. Method according to claim 7, in which the at least one matching criteria is employee availability.
- 10. Method according to claim 1, in which the employee characteristics comprise soft skills, and soft skill criteria values being deduced from an interview with the employee.
- 11. Method according to claim 1, in which the request (13) for a number of employees allows part-time employees, and the employee characteristics of part-time employees comprises the part-time employee available hours.
- 13. System for job mediation, comprising central processing means (2), memory means (3) connected to the central processing means (2), and at least one input/output means (4;7) connectable to the central processing means (2), in which the central processing means (2) are arranged to perform the method steps of claim 1.

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REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 15, 2002

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

- 3. Method according to claim 1-or 2, in which the step of generating an adjustment advice (16) is executed when the number of employees in the first subset of employees is lower than the requested number of jobs.
- 4. Method according claim 1, 2 or 3, in which the step of matching comprises the steps of determining a score for each of the plurality of employees, based on a weighted score for each of the plurality of matching criteria, the first subset of the plurality of employees comprising employees, for which the score is above a first predetermined threshold; and the adjustment advice (16) is being generated by selecting a second subset of employees, for which the score is between the first predetermined threshold and a second predetermined threshold, the second threshold being lower than the first threshold; and deriving from the second subset at least one matching criterion, for which the employee characteristic and job characteristic do not match, and an associated value that will result in a higher number of the plurality of employees for which the score is above the first threshold.
- 5. Method according to one of the proceeding claims 1, in which the at least one criterion is selected from a list of meaningful criteria.
- 6. Method according to one of the proceeding claims 1, in which the at least one matching criterion is a further matching criterion associated with one of the plurality of matching criteria according to a set of knowledge rules.

- 7. Method according to one of the proceeding claims 1, in which the at least one criterion is adjustable by one of the plurality of employees.
- 8. Method according to one of the claims 1-through 6, in which the at least one criterion is adjustable by the customer.
- 9. Method according to claim 7-or-8, in which the at least one matching criteria is employee availability.
- 10. Method according to ene of the proceeding claims 1, in which the employee characteristics comprise soft skills, and soft skill criteria values being deduced from an interview with the employee.
- 11. Method according to one-of-the proceeding-claims 1, in which the request (13) for a number of employees allows part-time employees, and the employee characteristics of part-time employees comprises the part-time employee available hours.
- 13. System for job mediation, comprising central processing means (2), memory means (3) connected to the central processing means (2), and at least one input/output means (4;7) connectable to the central processing means (2), in which the central processing means (2) are arranged to perform the method steps of one of the claims 1-through 12.